Note: A sound bite on this topic will be available shortly at: http://www.ago.ne.gov

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Attorney General Bruning: Court Correct in Upholding Corey Allen Sentence

LINCOLN – Attorney General Jon Bruning commended the Nebraska Court of Appeals today for upholding Corey Allen's sentence in the 2008 shooting of two Omaha police officers. Allen appealed his sentence, claiming it to be too harsh.

"Mr. Allen tried to kill two Omaha police officers, critically wounding one. I don't think there is too strict a penalty for that," Bruning said.

During a traffic stop, Allen opened fire on Officers Jerald Swanson and Paul Latschar. Both officers were wounded, with Latschar suffering wounds to the arm and abdomen.

In 2009, Allen pleaded no contest to two counts of attempted murder, two counts of use of a deadly weapon to commit a felony and possession of a weapon by a felon. He was sentenced to 140 to 180 years in prison for the crimes.

In addition to claiming his sentence was too harsh, Allen claimed his counsel was ineffective and that Allen was under the influence of antihistamines when he made his plea.

The appeals court rejected all of these claims. Assistant Attorney General Kimberly Klein handled the appeal.

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